Memoranda of Subjects were placed in their hands only on the opening day of the Assembly. They had not therefore ample time to prepare their subjects and collect facts and figures from the Administration Report. If the Memoranda of Subjects were published earlier, they would have an opportunity of conferring with each other as to the particular aspects of a question on which each Member should speak. It would also save a good deal of time, and all the points they had to urge would be fully brought to the notice of Government without repetition.

Dewan.—I am glad you have made this suggestion and if you carry it out in practice, you will probably be able to speak on different points with greater effect. As for the Administration Report, it will, I fear, not be possible for various reasons to publish it before the Assembly meets. The facts and figures could be had from the Departmental Reviews published in the Gazette much earlier. Arrangements will be made to publish the Memoranda of Subjects in the Gazette, at least a week prior to the Assembly.

Proceeding to his subject, the Member first congratulated the Government on the very liberal policy pursued in the Education Department and on the many salutary reforms introduced during the last year.

Controlling Agencies.—The cost on controlling agencies, he said, had been steadily increasing since 1085. He contended that the efficiency of [illegible] had not improved proportionately to the rise in expenditure. The h of that on the little of real inspection work, and without a first hand knowledge of the intellectual conditions of the educational system, the capacity of students and teachers, the actual conditions of instruction and the peculiar features of the national bent of mind, he would not be able to do much creative or organising work. There were only 26 high grade secondary schools directly under the Inspector of Secondary Schools and they were all under highly paid and experienced officers. An annual inspection carried out with some care and thoroughness was all that was required. The Director could do that with advantage to himself in the evolving of general educational schemes and to the institutions concerned. Further, with the Director's experience as Professor and Principal of the College, his direct association with the work of the secondary schools would make instruction in them better adapted to the requirements of College education. Coming to elementary education, the Member said that, since there was a Deputy Director, it was desirable to place the whole of the elementary department under his direct control and supervision. The 24 Assistant Inspectors, who were all B. A., L. T's and who were expected to possess a good knowledge of the Vernacular, should be able to control the higher grade elementary schools as well. The functions of the Inspectors of Elementary Schools, besides the supervision of those schools, were now confined to working out through their Assistants the orders and directions issued from headquarters. He was of opinion that the Inspectors only hindered the efficient working of the department. He therefore suggested that the remaining two ranges might be abolished, and that a Chief Inspector of Elementary Schools, who possessed good knowledge of Malayalam and educational experience, might be given responsible charge of the administration of elementary education. The division of schools into 'elementary' and 'secondary' was not desirable. The nomenclature should be changed into Vernacular and English schools.

Collegiate Education.—The cost under Collegiate education was also abnormal compared with the number of graduates turned out from the College every year. The College had failed to produce during all its existence any advance research and scholarly investigation. The expenditure on the Physics and Chemistry Chairs was also particularly unprofitable. But the Honors Classes in Sanskrit and Dravidian Languages, urged by him on a previous occasion, were not yet opened. There could not be better facilities for opening the Honors Classes in any other College. It was therefore desirable in the interests of the development of the Malayalam language and for procuring more Malayalam graduates for the elementary schools, to establish the Honors Classes in Sanskrit and Malayalam in the College at a very early date.

Dewan.—The chief reason why affiliation in Honors in these subjects has not been applied for is the want of accommodation at present. When the [illegible] ils,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Vanchiyoor school building is completed, this difficulty will be removed and it will then be possible to have the Honors Class. It is not on grounds of cost that the question is being delayed.

The Member continued and said that there was a general complaint that the pay of the Professors was far too high compared with that of very many other important officers in the State. Much money was now spent on Library grant and the amount thus sanctioned was appropriated to the purchase of rare and costly editions in English and works in German and French, unintelligible to the teacher and the taught. The number of books in oriental languages was very limited. He proposed that the expenditure under Library grant should be proportionate to the actual collections as library fees, to which the members of the staff also should be asked to contribute. A portion of the allotments in future years should be spent mainly in the purchase of books in oriental languages. He suggested that the Caste Hindu Hostel might be thrown open to all classes. Want of accommodation was the plea urged againt this proposal. But the Member thought that the construction of the hostel-buildings ought to have preceded the construction of the Warden's quarters.

Dewan.—A site has already been acquired at a cost of about Rs. 30,000 to extend the hostel-buildings. An estimate for the building has also been called for.

The Member then congratulated the Government on their resolve to appoint an Indian as the Principal of the College. He was of opinion that, for a long time to come, there was necessity to maintain a certain percentage of Indians with European degrees or Europeans themselves on the staff of the College, the object of the College being to promote western culture. The men procured should be the best among them in point of ability and character. He complained that the Professors seldom succeeded in instilling a thirst for advanced knowledge in the students. He said that a Professor's appointment to his chair was but the commencement of his studentship and that perennial reading, independent thought, intercourse with others in the field, and occasional pilgrimage to shrines of learning, were necessary to a healthy professorial life. Vacation should be used by Professors for visiting the more important libraries and laboratories in the west. He advocated that the Government might insist on their adopting such a course. A sum of money might be granted to them once in four or five years to proceed to foreign countries for the purpose. He suggested that the pay of the Professors and Assistant Professors should be fixed with reference to the person to be appointed.

The attention of the Government was then invited to the necessity for starting a Second Grade College at Mavelikara urged by other Members at the previous sessions. He said that the congestion in the Intermediate Class could thereby be prevented and all Travancore students given admission to that class.

Dewan.—A College in Central Travancore will certainly be useful. But in whatever ways we may restrict the expenditure, a College worth having is bound to be a very expensive institution.

The Member continued and said that, if it was not feasible to start a Government College, *substantial* grant might be given to the Managers of some of the Higher Grade Secondary Schools, and a College would become an accomplished fact.

The Training College and the Model School.—The two institutions consumed a large amount in their staff and equipment without affording corresponding benefits. The separate appointments of Vice-Principal to the Training College and Headmaster of the Model School were unnecessary. The need for a Vice-Principal had yet to be established. There was no provision made for a Malayalam Lecturer, as originally contemplated. The high expectations formed about the possibility of extending manual training throughout the State had not yet begun to be realised even though it was now seven years since an Instructor in Manual Training was appointed. He proposed that the Instructor might be asked to train a definite number of elementary school teachers, every year, who would be able to extend the scope of manual training. A class attached to the Training College might be opened for the purpose.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Girls' College.—The Member next referred to the location of the College for Girls on the Main Road amidst the most busy thoroughfare through which the girls had to pass. The site was very unsuitable for the purpose. Additional accommodation required for the College could not also be provided there. The site of the Training College was suited to the requirements of the Girls' College and he suggested that those two institutions could change places to the mutual advantage of both. The Government could thus save the amount required for a site and building worthy of the unique position of the Girls' College. The Training College could conveniently find accommodation in the present Girls' College buildings, keeping a few classes of the Model School and elementary school for the practising branch, while the other classes might be sent to the Vanchiyur school when finished. The undesirability of having the Boys' and Girls' Colleges at close quarters could then be avoided and the Girls' College woud get an ideal, central and secluded place capable of infinite expansion and becoming the home of a Women's University in fact, and there was accommodation for the Lady Principal's quarters. With regard to the Training College the educational bureau and museum, libraries and laboratories could be put to greater advantage in association with the Arts College. It would afford greater facilities for advanced studies to the L. T. students. The two Colleges could have a common hostel, a common hall and a common reading room. With the Law College in the neighbourhood, they would form the germ of a future University.

Sanskrit College.—The Sanskrit College should have a Principal of acknowledged scholarship and wide reputation. The Professor of Sanskrit in the Arts College could be associated with the working of the institution by being appointed as the *ex-officio* Principal. A Vice-Principal of the Assistant Professor's grade should also be appointed. Provision should be made for scientific teaching by combining eastern and western methods and subjects. The College should be taken to a less objectionable site and thrown open to all classes. It was high time that the College was given a building of its own.

Central Vernacular College.—He suggested the desirability of opening a Central Vernacular College. A beginning might be made by establishing a College on the basis of morning and evening lectures, as in the case of the Law College, for Vernacular higher linguistic and scientific studies in Malayalam, for the benefit of the Higher students in particular, and open to all. The text-books for the Vernacular Higher should be published two years in advance. The College could be accommodated along with the Sanskrit College. He was confident that the institution would be able to enlist honorary lecturers and could be almost self-supporting.

Secondary Education.—He suggested that the Government should avoid the management of secondary schools, except in a few central institutions. Most secondary schools under private management were [illegible] point of efficiency. The cost of Government per pupil in a departmental school was seven times the cost per pupil in an aided school. The mofussil departmental schools might be transferred with advantage to local committees of known stability, educational interest, and patriotism. He suggested that an experiment might be made at Quilon.

Dewan.—With reference to secondary education, the policy of Government was to leave it as much as possible to private enterprise. Of course, the Government would give grants-in-aid provided the schools satisfy the conditions of the Code. Such a policy is obviously necessary because, in the first place, private enterprise should be encouraged and, secondly, there should be a limit beyond which Government could not go.

The Member said that the policy was very laudable. He said, in that connection, that it was necessary to relax the provisions of the Code relating to building, equipment, etc., as they were at present needlessly hard. He then said that the Inspectorate might be abolished and, if that was not feasible, the Directorate, leaving the Deputy Director in charge of the elementary schools. More books and scientific apparatus should be provided for secondary schools. The system of School Leaving Certificate had rendered work in the schools more mechanical and instruction more

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

stereotyped, with the consequent sacrifice of efficiency. More secondary schools for girls should be started in the mofussil.

Elementary Education.—The Member said that the Assistant Inspectors should not be transferred very often. The Assistant Inspectors and Assistant Inspectresses should essentially know Malayalam. Replying to the Dewan, he said that there was at least one Inspectress who did not know Malayalam properly. The pay of the teachers should be raised. More books, appliances and furniture should be provided for those schools. A model elementary school should be opened in each taluk or district and the Assistant Inspector should be made responsible for its efficiency. Teachers' associations, educational boards, conferences, exhibitions, etc., should be developed on the right lines. The Assistant Inspectors and Assistant Inspectresses should devote special attention to the above matters. He was of opinion that under present conditions it was detrimental to open more higher grade elementary schools because they did not directly fit one for any trade, profession or calling. The lower grade elementary schools were bound to grow and, as they depended on private enterprise alone, it would be a measure of relief if they could be made *mixed* schools in rural areas.

Dewan.—The Government are introducing this change in consultation with the Director. In the two lowest classes, if not in Class III also, there is absolutely no objection to teach girls and boys together.

The Member next said that the curriculum of studies in elementary schools (Member, [illegible] the curricula of studies in [illegible] schools were *K. M. Mamman Mappila* should be rendered more useful in practice. The curricula for the girls' sc[illegible] most glaringly ill-adapted and should be suitably changed. The boys and girls need not undergo the same course of studies.

Dewan.—This is also a matter which is engaging the attention of Government now.

The Member then said that medical inspection of schools at definite intervals should be insisted on and athletics encouraged. He pointed out that the provision for free primary education was violated in a large number of private schools. The Government should exercise a claim to check and audit the award of grants. He suggested the desirability of publishing in the Gazette the names of holders of Secondary School Leaving Certificate who were eligible for admission to the Intermediate Class. The migration of students to Colleges outside Travancore should be discouraged and any expenditure required for the purpose should not be stinted.

Special Schools.—The School of Arts should be placed under one who was an artist and a man of business, and its work confined to works of art pure and simple. The school should be worked directly under the control of the Government.

Training Schools.—The departmental training schools were now held in rented buildings. They could be attached to and located in the local higher grade elementary school. They might have a common headmaster. Greater facilities should be afforded for the training of female teachers. He urged that the girls' schools should be staffed with female teachers only and, if available, female teachers could be introduced into the lowest classes of the lower grade elementary schools for boys.

Technical Education.—The two existing institutes did not deserve the name. Technical education was the means of developing the material wealth of the country. A few agricultural schools and industrial halls might be opened in different centres. The idea once suggested by Dr. Mitchell of opening a Polytechnical Institute was a good one and might be carefully worked out under expert advice.

Dewan.—The suggestions of the Member will be considered. Many of them are valuable.

Mr. M. Narayana Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Padmanabhapuram) said that the education imparted in schools should have more of practical utility. He was of opinion that the children of artisans, attending secondary schools, should be given training in their own hereditary crafts also, to induce them to stick to their trade and to

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

introduce modern and scientific methods of work, without, at the same time, denying them the benefits of literary education. Agricultural and commercial subjects should be added to the curricula of studies in schools. There should also be agricultural farms attached to schools, wherever possible.

Coming to the question of improving the Vernacular, he suggested that higher appointments should be given to those who were capable, though ignorant of English. All departmental codes should be published in Malayalam. Facilities should be given for higher studies in Malayalam. A Malayalam lexicon should be compiled under Government auspices and liberal grants given to Vernacular reading-rooms and libraries. Sanskrit also might be made a compulsory subject in all higher grade elementary schools.

The Member complained that, in His Highness the Maha Raja's College at Trivandrum, Travancore students were not admitted freely to the College Classes and that they had therefore to seek admission in the Colleges outside the State. He requested that an enquiry might be conducted as to why the College was closed against so many local students. He advocated the desirability of re-establishing the Philosophy Chair in the College.

He said that secondary education was becoming more and more costly ... account of frequent changes of text-books, their high prices, enhanced rates of f... fail- etc. There was something radically wrong either in the present system of ex...ondary nation or in the instruct... from the large number o... to open ures ... schools, though their work was light compared with that of the Inspectors of Elementary Schools. Greater impetus should be given to private enterprise in the field of secondary education by making the grant-in-aid rules more favorable and attractive.

Accommodation was insufficient in most of the elementary schools and the Member was of opinion that the necessity to transfer to the Government the site and buildings of new schools stood in the way of their extension. Greater encouragement should be given to the managers of aided schools. When a student had passed the requisite examination, it was a hardship that the want of a few days' attendance should stand in the way of his promotion to the higher class. Elementary educatio... should be left under the sole charge of a Native who was a scholar in Malayala... Further, Elementary School Inspectors and Inspectresses should necessarily be str... in Malayalam. A boy from Form IV joining Class VII should be admitted to ... Elementary School Leaving Certificate Examination at the close of the first ... Night schools should be opened for the use of backward classes. The nomenc...e of 'elementary schools' as applied to Vernacular schools and 'secondary schools' applied to English schools should be changed. The power of granting transfer certificates should be given to headmasters, while the power of dismissal should be left with the Inspecting officer only. He also suggested that the text-books selected should be such as would be capable of imparting sound moral and religious instruction aiding in the formation and development of character.

Mr. M. K. Madhavan Pillai (Member, Karunagapalli taluk) said that there were too many controlling officers in the department. When a number of Assistant Inspectors were working under the Director, the Deputy Director and Inspectors of Elementary Schools were unnecessary. The students of Form IV joining Class VII should be admitted to the Elementary School Leaving Certificate Examination at the end of the first year. He suggested that works of standard authors alone should be prescribed as text-books, and if such books were wanting, scholars should be requested to write the required books and honorarium should be given to them. The books now prescribed were too many for the standard, and the prices very high. There was no comparison between the pains and the gains of authors.

Coming to the College, the Member said that all Travancore students should be given admission to the local College. If classes became unwieldy, new divisions might be opened. The Travancore students who were refused admission in the local

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ollege found, in many cases, admission in outside Colleges. He was of opinion that students of the Law College should not be entertained as teachers, especially in Girls' College. Schools were temples of learning and school-masters should not only possess approved and unblemished character but should be above suspicion. He advocated the desirability of opening Group II for the Intermediate Class in the College.

Dewan.—The affiliation of the University has already been obtained. Costly laboratories and apparatus have first to be provided. Owing to this and other causes, it has not been found possible to introduce Group II into the College yet.

The Member then said that the Caste Hindu Hostel should be thrown open to the students of all castes.

He suggested the desirability of opening a technical institute on the model of Kalabhavan of Baroda under the control of the Organiser in Manual Training. He considered that it was unnecessary to give stipends for training in forestry as qualified Travancoreans were now available.

Coming to elementary education, the Member said that the Department of Elementary Education should be completely separated from the rest. Classes V and VI might, with advantage, be shifted to the relief schools where there was sufficient accommodation. He said that only qualified persons should be appointed as sewing mistresses and bhagavatars in girls' schools.

Mr. K. M. Mamman Mappila (Member, Nominated) said that he proposed to deal with the question of Vernacular education to begin with. There were now 84 higher grade elementary schools for boys and 37 for girls, 495 lower grade elementary schools for boys and 87 for girls, besides 15 incomplete higher grade elementary schools for boys and 2 for girls. A uniform allowance was paid to the headmasters of each of the above grades of schools without reference to the service and experience of the person concerned and the strength of the school. The total amount paid as allowance came to Rs. 4,588 per mensem. The Member suggested that there should be three grades of headmasters for higher grade elementary schools, 7 on Rs. 40, 15 on Rs. 30 and 62 on Rs. 27, and three grades of headmistresses, 5 on Rs. 50, 10 on Rs. 40 and 22 on Rs. 35. In the lower grade elementary schools, a headmaster might be paid Rs. 15 and a headmistress Rs. 20. The teachers of Class III might be paid Rs. 11 for a male and Rs. 12 for a female teacher. The sum required for the working of the above scheme was Rs. 4,419 or Rs. 169 less than the amount of allowance now given. In reply to a query from the Dewan whether the reduction in pay would not be felt as a hardship by the men on Rs. 30, the Member said that they could not reasonably grudge a small reduction in their income when their substantive pensionable pay had been more than proportionately raised. Further, they would have the prospect of a promotion to the higher grade under the scheme proposed. The balance of Rs. 169 would increase if more than 35 students were permitted to be admitted to a class. Even with the relief schools, the strength in Classes V and VI had not gone down and one or two divisions in those classes might, with advantage, be transferred to the relief schools.

Dewan.—This last matter is engaging the attention of Government.

The Member then said that a boy from Form IV was now admitted to Class VII but he was not permitted to appear for the Elementary School Leaving Certificate Examination before three years. He suggested that the progress of the boy in Forms II and III might be taken as equivalent to that in Classes V and VI and that he might be permitted to appear for the examination at the end of the first year.

There were at present 10 mofussil training schools and 160 pupil-teachers were being trained in them annually. The Member thought that there need be only four training schools to train 160 teachers. Out of the proposed forty students for each training school, twenty might be from departmental schools, ten from aided schools and ten private students. He said that his sole object in proposing a reduction in the number of training schools was to reduce the cost. The training schools did

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

not work satisfactorily under the Inspector of Elementary Schools, who had mul farious other duties to attend to and the Member requested that they should be ask to bestow greater attention to them. No instruction in drill and drawing was n imparted there. There was a higher grade elementary school in every place wh a training school was now held. The Member suggested that the headmaster of training school could also be the headmaster of the higher grade elementary sch In that case a slight extension of the existing school-building would accommod the training class and the rent now paid for training schools would be a saving Government. The headmaster would also be available to run the training scho whenever the single teacher in them absented himself. He requested also that t grant to the headmasters of aided lower grade elementary schools might be rais from Rs. 6. to Rs. 10. He then pointed out that a female reserve teacher in t Paliakara girls' school at Tiruvalla did not get her pay for the last ten or twel months. If a complaint regarding the non-disbursement of her pay had not reac the Director of Public Instruction, it might be pending with the Inspectress of G Schools. He suggested that the system of reserve teachers in girls' schools sh be abolished as in the case of boys' schools.

Dewan.—The Director of Public Instruction will make prompt enquiry the question of the non-disbursement of pay.

The Member then complained that scientific music was not being taugh girls' schools. He proposed that an examination in music should be instituted those passing the examination only should be appointed as bhagavatars.

Permission of the Inspector was now insisted on for the re-admission of st dents whose names were struck off the register for non-payment of fees. It took long time to get the Inspector's sanction and the boy lost his term in the meanwh There was also a similar difficulty in admissions necessitated by the transfers of guar dians. The rule should be suitably modified.

Dewan.—The matter will be considered. It would be some relief if the boy are admitted pending the receipt of sanction from the Inspecting officer.

The Member then requested that supplementary course should be introduced t the School Leaving Certificate Examinations, enabling the candidates failing in one subject to attend class and appear for examination in that subject only. Such classes existed in British India.

The aided secondary schools were taking up the responsibility of the Govern ment in spreading secondary education. The cost on each boy in the aided school bore no proportion to that in a departmental school, being Re. 1–chs. 17–c. 9, against Rs. 11–chs. 5–c. 10. The grant to the private secondary schools should therefore be increased and greater facilities afforded to managers.

The Member next proposed the abolition of the Government Book Depot at Kottayam. Very great difficulty was now experienced in purchasing copies of text-books. The headmasters or managers might be entrusted with the sale of text-books, or copies might be sold for a lump sum.

Dewan.—The question will be considered.

He next said that Sanskrit alone should be made an optional subject in the Secondary School Leaving Certificate Examination, instead of Sanskrit and Tamil or Sanskrit and Malayalam as at present. The change could be easily made by substituting Sanskrit Translation and Composition for Vernacular Translation and Composition.

Dewan.—The several suggestions of the Member will be considered.

Mr. C. K. Krishna Pillai (Member, Mavelikara taluk) said that the Preparatory Class did not benefit the student much, was expensive both to the Government and the people and resulted in the loss of a whole year in a student's life. All that was additionally taught in that class was the mechanical memorising of a few English words. He suggested that the class might, with advantage, be abolished, more time

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ing devoted to the teaching of English in Forms I, II and III, if necessary. bjects, other than English language, should be taught in the Vernacular in Forms I, and III, as the students had not sufficient knowledge of English to understand l follow the instruction imparted in English. He said that it was the rule in e Madras Presidency and referred to Rule 68 of the Madras Education Code for thority. The plea of want of suitable text-books was only an imaginary one. Under e present system the students neither improved their knowledge of English r gained a thorough knowledge of other subjects. Adequate provision should be ade for the teaching of English in Classes V, VI and VII of the elementary schools, that an Elementary School Leaving Certificate holder, with English as his optional ubject, might get admission to Form IV of the secondary school. The Secondary d Elementary School Leaving Certificates could thus be co-ordinated. By that rangement, the number of lower grade secondary schools could be gradually diminished. An Elementary School Leaving Certificate holder would get a fairly good nowledge of English and the cost on secondary education both to the Government and o the student would be lessened. The posts of Sanskrit munshis in higher grade elementary schools might be filled up by those who had passed the Vernacular Higher Examination, as the Sanskrit munshis at present did not always teach Sanskrit.

The students should be judged more by the public examination mark than by class marks which depended more or less on the whims of the teacher. The School Leaving Certificates should show whether the student passed or failed. Certificates should be granted only to those who passed in the final public examination. The existing system of secondary education did not enable a student to gain his livelihood. The young men who left the secondary school did not possess sound knowledge of any science or art, and they looked with contempt on agricultural and industrial occupations. After Form III, students who did not intend to go up to the College should be separated from those who did, and the former trained in some industry or art along with literary education. He too considered that Assistant Inspectors of Secondary Schools were unnecessary. There were treasures of Malayalam granthas in several private houses. Arrangements should be made to collect them and print them, as in the case of Sanskrit manuscripts.

Mr. M. N. Narayana Menon (Member, Kottayam taluk) said that there was congestion in all classes of elementary schools, and schools containing about fifty students in a class existed in many places. The remedy was to divide classes into divisions by appointing additional teachers and to provide more accommodation in certain schools. He referred to the Kottayam Higher Grade Elementary School as having 300 students under the charge of three teachers. He complained that the pay of the headmasters was very poor compared even to that of the teachers of the lowest class in secondary schools. The allowances of headmasters should be abolished and their pay raised. It was desirable to have different grades of headmasters. Agricultural farms should be opened near higher grade elementary schools. The cost on that account would be only very little in respect of mofussil schools. If the Government would acquire lands for the purpose, the cost of upkeep of those farms might be met by contributions from people and from the proceeds of the farm. Opening of such farms would be an incentive to the study of agriculture. Agriculture and English language might be made compulsory in Classes V, VI and VII. He was of opinion that moral and religious instruction should be imparted in all the schools. Facilities should be afforded in a few of the higher grade elementary schools at least to prepare students for the Vernacular Higher Examination and Classes VIII, IX and X should be gradually opened in those schools.

The names 'elementary' and 'secondary' as applied to Vernacular and English schools respectively should be changed. Grants to private schools should be sanctioned or refused within three months from the date of application. He advocated the desirability of bringing the libraries and reading-rooms in the State under the supervision of Government and of giving grants to those institutions as was done in other Native States. He complained against the delay in obtaining books from the Government Book Depot at Kottayam. He suggested that Vernacular correspondence in State departments should be encouraged as far as possible and the Gazette should be made more intelligible to people ignorant of English. He condemned the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

recent changes introduced in the arrangement of the Government Gazette and reques ed that the old arrangement might be restored. Educational boards might re-established for the management of elementary schools, with additional powe and responsibilities.

The expenditure on secondary education was not proportionate to th number of pupils. The Inspecting officers did not bestow any attention on th spread of education by stimulating people to open schools. The two Assistan Inspectors, he considered, were unnecessary. Rule 134 A of the Education Cod required modification to promote private enterprise in the field. A supplementar course should be instituted for Secondary School Leaving Certificate.

Coming to the College, he said that the necessity for Travancore students to seek admission elsewhere should be avoided. The Caste Hindu Hostel should be thrown open to all castes. He was of opinion that the Training College would have no scope or materials for work after a few years and that it was therefore desirable that the amount spent on that institution should, with advantage, be utilised for imparting technical education. The work of the Organiser in Manual Training should be made more useful to the people.

In conclusion, he said that subjects of practical utility, such as nursing, domestic economy and the like should be taught in girls' schools.

Dewan's reply.—The representations and suggestions of the several Member will be carefully considered.

116. Desirability of imparting religious instruction in schools.

Mr. S. Subrahmanya Pillai (Member, Trading Classes, Nagercoil) said that no education could be called satisfactory or complete unless it tended to the development of morality. In spite of the very hard work the present day education demanded from young and tender brains, it gave very little benefit to them and that too wholly outside the sphere of moral goodness. He said that the greatest amount of moral teaching was contained in religious books, and it was therefore desirable to teach young students those books in all schools half an hour every day. That would tend to the improvement of the student's morality. Coming to the question of the selection of religious books, the Member suggested that the educational boards might be asked to publish books, on morality and religion, of such a nature as would not offend the religious scruples of any religionist whatsoever. If such books on religion would not be available, books on morality at least would be sufficient for the present. He next dwelt on the advantages of moral instruction and its beneficent results in the after-life of the student.

The Member next complained against the action of the authorities of the Vadassery Mission Girls' School in insisting on Hindu girls attending the Bible classes. For want of any other girls' school in the vicinity, all the Hindu girls of Vadassery and Krishnankoil attended the Mission school. They formed about 99% of the strength of the school. Those girls were compulsorily taught Bible. They were compelled to attend the Sunday classes. The people of the place addressed the Assistant Inspectress on the subject and yet their grievances were not redressed. He therefore requested that a separate Government Girls' School should be sanctioned for the place, or the Aided Mission School should be directed not to compel the Hindu girls to attend Sunday classes and Bible classes.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5-45 P. M.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly